Department of Commerce Extends RELIEF Initiative under Export Promotion Mission Until March 31, 2027

Department of Commerce has officially extended **Component II of the RELIEF scheme until March 31, 2027**. This move comes in response to the **ongoing maritime disruptions in West Asia**, which have been affecting freight costs, insurance premia, and overall export logistics.

Key Features

- **Validity:** Extended until **31 March 2027**.
- **Risk Coverage: 95% ECGC cover** for shipments to Gulf/West Asia regions.
- **Policy Types:** Standalone & Whole Turnover Policies (from **16 March 2026** onwards).
- **Premium Stability:** Insurance premiums capped at **pre-disruption levels**.
- **Cargo Coverage:** FCL, LCL, Reefer containers (excluding energy shipments).

Operational Guidance

- Exporters must submit claims via the **ECGC customer portal**: www.ecgcltd.in.
- Tutorials for registration & claim submission available on **ECGC's official YouTube channel (@ecgcltd7016)**.

Context

- Launched **19 March 2026** under the **Export Promotion Mission (EPM)**.
- Designed to counter **freight escalation, higher insurance premia, and war-related risks** from Gulf/West Asia maritime disruptions.

Implications

- **Resilience:** Strengthens exporters' confidence in continuing shipments.
- **Cost Control:** Prevents sudden spikes in insurance costs.
- **Sectoral Impact:** Benefits containerized cargo exporters — **plastics, textiles, perishables**.

In essence, this extension is a **trade resilience safeguard**, reinforcing India's commitment to sustaining export flows amid geopolitical uncertainty.

Source: Press Information Bureau